Coal India Limited for the last three years are as follows :-

(Figs. in 000 tonnes)
Data Provisional

Year	Linkage	Destoatch
1993-94	12.465	11.143
1994-95	13.965	11.342
1995-96	13.425	12.135

(d) Coal supplies to power sector in the country including power houses of Gujarat Electricity Board is accorded highest priority. Supply of coal to power sector is monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Group. Appropriate corrective action is taken to step up coal supplies wherever necessary. G.E.S. has been requested to improved the arrangements for unloading of coal at their power stations. G.E.B. has also been requested to make timely payments so that the supplies are not required to be regulated on account of non-payment for coal supplied to them.

Trade Relation with CIS Countries

2179. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed any trade agreement with CIS countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Government of India have concluded trade agreements with all the CIS countries except with Azerbaijan.

(b) The salient features of the agreements include:

- Promotion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation on a long term and stable basis;
- Mutual Most Favoured Nation treatment
- All commercial and non-commercial transactions in freely convertible currencies;
- Encourage and facilitate contacts between their natural and jurisdical persons *inter alia* through exchange of visits of delegations, participation in fairs and exhibitions and exchange of information;
- Encourage economic investment and technological cooperation including through establishment of joint ventures;
- Encourage opening of branch offices of the foreign trade organisations, companies, firms, banks, etc. in each others territory in accordance with their national laws and regulations;
- Promote cooperation in fields of science and technology, ecology, transport, communications, training of personnel and in other spheres of mutal interest.

Losses in Instrumentation Ltd., Kota

2180. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Instrumentation Ltd., Kota has been incurring losses;

(b) if so, the losses incurred by it till date;

(c) whether there is any proposal for merger of Instrumentation Ltd. with BHEL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 122.21 cr (Till 30.11.96)

(c) to (e). Instrumentation Limited had sent a proposal for merger with BHEL. After ascertaining the views of BHEL, it has been decided that this proposal need not be pursued at this stage.

Closure of Paper Mills

2181. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of paper mills closed during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of public sector mills and private sector mills amongst them;

(c) the reasons for the closure of the above mills;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to find out the causes of closure; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government for the revival of the public sector paper mills?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The data in regard to closed paper mills is not centrally mantained in the Ministry of Industry. However, according to available information the details of closed paper mills are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(b) Two subsidiaries of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. (a Public Sector Mill) i.e. Nagaland Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd. & Mandya National Paper Mill are lying closed. All other units are in private sector.

(c) and (d). The reasons for the closure of these units are attributable to financial constraints,